

they please. Theaters and special functions are provided for their pleasure, just as schools are maintained for the children.

"The sultan of Solo, a handsome man of 40, is always marrying some new wife. And, because of the distinction such attention confers upon the family of each additional bride, he practically has his choice of any unmarried native woman.

"The older he gets the younger are the new wives he selects. The same is true of the sultan of Djokya, the other sultan of Java, who is now in his 75th year.

"There is no doubt that the people—and there are 45,000,000 in Java—are happier under the Dutch government rule than they were when the sultans and the princes exercised full control. Before that the sultan could take anything he coveted—gold, crops, animals, daughters and wives, as his fancy dictated. Now there is justice.

"But among the upper caste of natives there is smoldering discontent at the restrictions exercised upon their old licentious freedom. It might break into flame at any time.

"The Dutch government realizes it and for that reason the authorities have mounted cannon overlooking the palace enclosure, trained into the four corners of the wall, ready to blaze away at the slightest sign of revolt.

"The sultan of Solo, who has his own regiment of soldiers, and who still exercises an almost unbelievable sway, despite his subservience to the government, would only have to give a sign to have every white person in Java wiped out of existence."

#### HE WAS A SHE

Knoxville, N. Y., March 5. — An "18-year-old boy" was supposed to be the nephew of Dr. Charles M. Drake. When "he" died it turned out to be his wife. She had always worn boy's clothes.

#### CHICAGOANS MAY FISH IN THE SMALL PARKS

At the suggestion of Alderman Coughlin a resolution was adopted by the special park commissioner yesterday asking the park boards of the city to set aside a weekly "fishing day" for Chicagoans.

"Taking the present prices of meats into consideration, this plan will cut the high cost of living," said the alderman. "I have learned that there is a large amount of game fish in the different park lagoons. Chicagoans should be permitted to catch them."

At present fishing is allowed only in the fall. Park officials say that each spring the ponds and lagoons are stocked with fry and these should not be molested until next fall.

At present a string of gill nets, stretching from Wilmette to South Chicago two miles out in the lake, cut off Chicago's fish supply. The small-sized perch, those who escaped these nets, are the only fish which are caught by Chicagoans.

The Booth fisheries places the thousands of tons of whitefish, lake trout, herring and perch, which they catch in their nets every year, in cold storage. Every week wagonloads of decayed and putrid fish are carried from their storehouses to be used for fertilizer.

The waters of Lake Michigan teem with fish. If it were not for the nets all varieties could be caught next to the shore line. The waters of the park lagoons are stagnant and muddy. Bass and other game fish find it hard to exist under such conditions. Carp, goldfish and bullheads thrive unmolested.

#### KILLED ON BIRTHDAY

Cleveland, March 5. — Ruth Merrill's friends surprised her with a party on her eighth birthday. As her friends gathered at her house Ruth was killed by a street car.